

Project Proposal

Proposal Title: East Coal Creek Fuels Treatment Reseeding

Proposal Number: 1397

DWR Region: Southeastern Region

Lead Agency: BLM

County: Carbon

Project Manager: Karl Ivory

PM Phone: 4356133717

Regional Priority: Within Focus Area

Project Type: Terrestrial Habitat

Proposed Start Date: 10/01/2009

Project Location: The project area is located northeast of the Price Airport, just south of Deadman Canyon.

Project Description: Drill seed 725 acres within East Coal Creek fuels treatment area that have not naturally revegetated with perennial vegetation since the treatment in 2005.

Description of Problem/Need: Some areas within the 2,310 acre East Coal Creek Fuels treatment project had a very limited amount of perennial vegetation other than pinyon and juniper trees. One area encompassing approximately 725 acres was burned on May 24-25, 2005. The intense fire and heat destroyed the remaining perennial grasses and shrubs. Over the last three years, Russian thistle and other annual forbs have invaded the area. Sheet erosion across the landscape is beginning to become evident. Noxious weeds (musk thistle and Russian knapweed) and other undesirable plants are beginning to occupy the project area. The project area is within big game winter range. A permanent loss of shrubs and thermal cover could have a devastating effect on the deer and elk populations in this area.

Objectives:

- Establish perennial vegetation on the East Coal Creek fuels treatment area.
- Reduce the spread of invasive and noxious weed species.
- Reduce erosion potential.
- Provide forage and cover on critical big game winter range.

Relevance to Strategic Plans: The proposed project is part of the East Coal Creek fuels project completed in 2005. The EA states that follow-up seeding may be needed if the existing vegetation did not respond favorably to the fuels treatment.

Potential Risks: The area is experiencing sheet erosion and invasion of noxious and invasive weed species including Russian knapweed, musk thistle and Russian thistle.

Proposed Methods: The proposed project area has been burned and has very little perennial vegetation. A rangeland drill pulled by a dozer or tractor would be used to drill seed the area with an approved big game winter range seed mix. Staffing needs would include two individuals to operate equipment and supply the seed mix to the site. The area would be seeded in the fall (October – November) of 2009. The area would be rested from grazing use for two consecutive growing seasons (Spring of 2010 and 2011).

Shapefile Name: HPD 2010\GIS Shape Files - Proposals\SER\1397.shp

Seed Source: GBRC

UPCD Reg Team Coord Date: 12/02/2008

Proposed NEPA Action:

Proposed Arch Action:

☒ **Vegetation Monitoring** ☐ **Wildlife Monitoring**

Monitoring Information: Several photo points have been established within the treated and untreated areas for initial comparison of the fuels project completed in 2005. Point interval transects would also be established and monitored to determine the success of the reseeded. Range Trend study Airport Bench 11B-2 is located within the project area.

Grazing Management: The area is within the Deer Flat pasture of the Coal Creek Allotment. The pasture would be rested from grazing use for two consecutive growing seasons starting in the spring of 2010. The pasture would be open for grazing in the fall of 2011.

SPECIES BENEFITING

Mule Deer

Elk

Project Proposal

LAND OWNERSHIP

Owner	Acres
BLM	725
Total	725

PROPOSED FUNDING

Source	Amount Requested	Date Approved	Amount Approved
DNR Watershed (FY10)	\$42,440.00		\$0.00
BLM	\$27,888.00		\$0.00
Totals	\$70,328.00		\$0.00

PROPOSED BUDGET

Item	Description	DWR Account	Partner Contrib.
Contractual Services		\$21,600.00	\$0.00
Seed (GBRC)		\$19,400.00	\$27,888.00
Equipment Rental		\$1,440.00	\$0.00
	Totals	\$42,440.00	\$27,888.00

Project Map: